

Eric P. Smith

JWST Program Scientist

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Background

- NASA seeks to maximize the scientific return from all of its science missions
- The more people who have access to NASA data the more science studies will be performed using those data
 - Archival science products are more numerous now than general observer products (e.g., HST, Chandra)
 - Access to data fosters better informed proposals which increases science productivity
- JWST is a life limited mission
 - 5 year prime mission
 - 10 year consumables limit

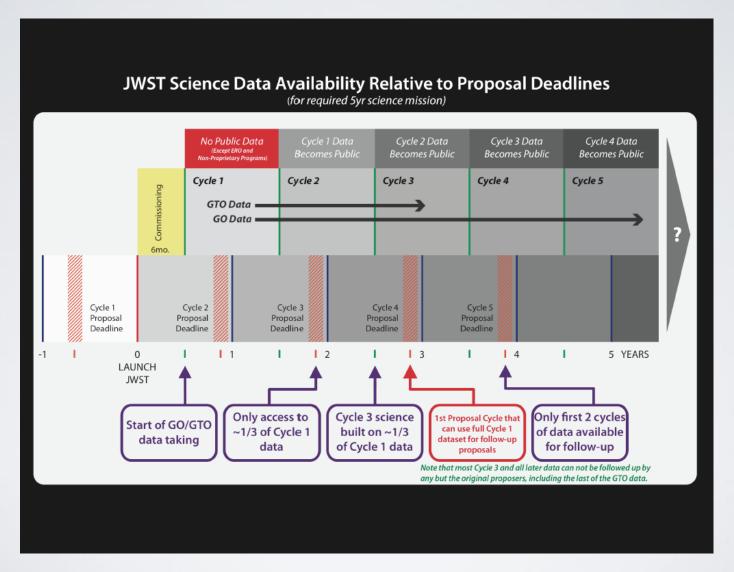
JWST General Observers

- Like HST, JWST will select a pool of General Observers (GOs) yearly
- Current science policy states GOs will have a 12 month exclusive use rights to their data (can be waived), and STScI Director can recommend different lengths for this period
- In July of this year, the STScI Director recommended the GO exclusive user period be set at 6 months based upon advice from the JWST Space Telescope Advisory Committee (JSTAC)

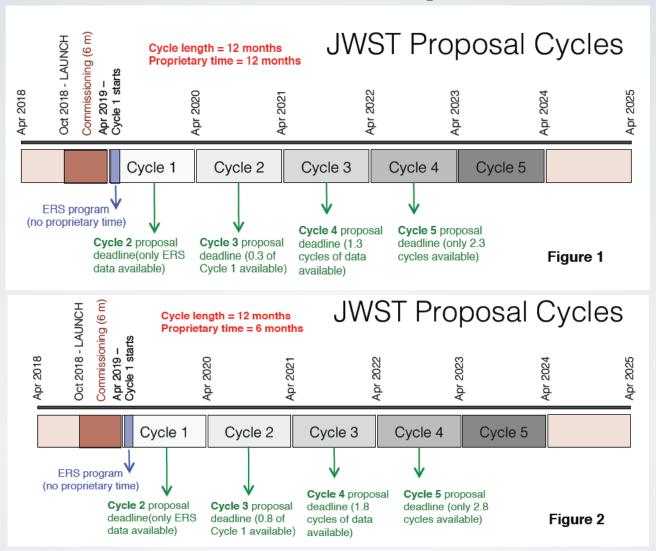
JSTAC

- STScI employs the JSTAC to provide the Director with advice on technical readiness, policies and other matters (see http://www.stsci.edu/jwst/advisory-committee)
- This committee performed a study that showed how changing to a 6 months exclusive use period would dramatically affect the amount of public data for Cycles 2 and 3 of the JWST proposal timeline (see letter 1)

12 Month Exclusive Use



Timeline Comparison



JWST SWG Assessment

- NASA asked its JWST Science Working Group to provide their assessment of the pros and cons to going from 12 to 6 months
- General recognition of benefit of changing the Exclusive use period.
- See letter 2

Next Steps

- NASA, ESA and CSA have discussed this proposal and are working with their respective communities so they could discuss this change
- NASA would like you to discuss your thoughts and any input you received from community members since the November meeting, in order to provide NASA additional guidance in making a decision
- NASA will follow-up with CSA and ESA to understand their positions on the proposed change.

Summary

- Changing the default exclusive use period for JWST general observers from 12 to 6 months can benefit the science community and NASA by making more data available to proposers earlier in the limited lifetime of JWST
- The STScI Director recommended and the JWST SWG endorses this proposal
- NASA, ESA, and CSA are working with their communities to be sure we have explored pros and cons of this proposed shift.